



Susan Bysiewicz
SECRETARY OF THE STATE
CONNECTICUT

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BYSIEWICZ HONORS EAST GRANBY WORLD WAR II VETERANS

SECRETARY OF THE STATE PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS PROGRAM PAYS TRIBUTE CONNECTICUT'S WORLD WAR II VETERANS

EAST GRANBY: Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz today, April 30, 2008, honored 28 East Granby World War II veterans at a Public Service Awards ceremony at East Granby High School. The East Granby awards ceremony marked the 10th public service award presentations to veterans of World War II by the Office of the Secretary of the State.

“After summoning the courage to defeat tyranny, you had courage and strength to change our country for the better,” Bysiewicz told the crowd. “You did it without great fanfare – without seeking recognition – never asking to be honored. Today we salute you as the greatest generation.”

Among the veterans in attendance were three winners of the Bronze Star for bravery in combat. Secretary Bysiewicz paid special tribute to Leon Gaudreau, 83, of East Granby, who won the bronze star for bravery in combat after helping members of his tank unit escape capture shortly after the D-Day landing.

“Serving your country is what America is all about,” said Bysiewicz. “Each person here is a testament to the civic pride and involvement that is the foundation of our civic life.”

Tuesday’s event is part of an on-going effort by the Secretary of the State’s Office to recognize volunteers and public servants. The Office of the Secretary of the State Public Service Awards Program began in 2001. Since then, the office has honored more than 16,000 people in Connecticut for their commitment to public service, including elected

officials, professional firefighters, volunteer coaches, community and youth volunteers, board and commission members, emergency service workers and elections officials.

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